

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, April 17th, 1902.

Chemicals, Drugs, Etc.—So far as this market for drugs is concerned, the variation in conditions which have prevailed for some time past is very slight. Business is about normal, with prices steady. In New York trade has picked up somewhat, but there is only a small demand for quinine. Alkalies are selling briskly. Arsenic is easy under increased supplies. The Liverpool chemical market is quiet, and but little new business is being done. Sulphate of copper has again declined in price.

Dry Goods.—No new feature has developed under this heading. A brisk business is being done, and travellers report that prospects appear very good. Prices, especially in cotton goods, continue exceptionally firm.

Flour and Grain.—A steadier feeling is perceptible in the flour trade, the export demand having improved. It is claimed however by exporters that they cannot afford to pay more than \$2.70 for 90 per cent. patents, buyers' bags, middle freights, the new duty imposed by the Imperial authorities being 3c. or more over and above the equivalent one on wheat. Oatmeal keeps steady at old prices, while bran and shorts are quite firm. The wheat market is firmer, in sympathy with the harder feeling across the line, and owing to a better demand for milling. Prices remain unchanged.

Furs.—No large quantity of furs are coming in now, and prices remain very firm. The surprisingly high figures realized at the recent sales in London are having their effect on views of holds here.

Fruits and Vegetables.—Strawberries are becoming more plentiful, but are selling well. Oranges have advanced somewhat. Tomatoes are lower than last week, owing to heavier receipts. Vegetables are in about average demand. Prices may be quoted as follows: Extra fancy, Rose brand, California Washington navels, \$4 to \$4.25 per box; extra fancy navels, \$4 per box; new Messina lemons, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per box; Valencia oranges, \$4.75; Bahamas, \$2.75 to \$3; Mexican, \$2.75 to \$3.25; spy apples, \$5.50 per barrel; bananas, fancy, \$1.50 to \$2 per bunch; Canadian onions, \$1.20 per bag; California celery, \$4.50 per case; tomatoes, \$4 per crate; pineapples, \$5 to \$5.50 per crate; cukes, \$2 per doz.

Groceries.—Some degree of increased activity has been visible in the grocery trade this week though in no special line. In sugars the movement has been fair. Canned goods, more particularly tomatoes, are in strong request, and it is likely that prices will shortly be fixed on a more definite basis. There is a prospect of advancing prices for tapioca. Teas remain in about the same position. For dried fruits the demand is fully up to the average. Valencia raisins are quite firm. Currants and prunes are steady.

Hardware.—The wholesale houses report business in shelf hardware as being

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